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*2/3/03*  
Date

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of	)	Examiner: Nathan M. Nutter
Hans-Joachim Graf	)	
Serial No.: 09/981,419	)	Group Art Unit: 1711
Filed: October 18, 2001	)	
For: BLEND OF EPDM AND SBR	)	
USING AN EPDM OF	)	
DIFFERENT ORIGIN AS A	)	
COMPATIBILIZER	)	
Attorney Docket No.: CSAZ 2 00147	)	Cleveland, OH 44114

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir: \_\_\_\_\_

This communication is responsive to the outstanding Office Action issued on November 20, 2002 in connection with the above captioned patent application. Please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 2, line 6 with the following new paragraph:

Styrene-butadiene rubber (SBR) is a diene rubber that is often considered a candidate for blending with EPDM. It is low in cost and relatively easy to process. Unfortunately, SBR, along with most other diene rubbers, are immiscible in EPDM and exhibit cure incompatibility with EPDM. This cure incompatibility of EPDM and highly unsaturated diene rubbers is demonstrated by the poor performance of the resulting composition in stree-strain tests. In addition, SBR does not tolerate high levels of carbon black and oil incorporation, showing a sharp decrease in its physical properties when even moderately high levels of filler are